36. Ministers thanked the Government of India for the efforts deployed to organise this Meeting and for the warm hospitality of the Indian people.

Sick state of handicraft industry

*393. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that handicraft industry is constantly becoming sick due to its unorganized set up under Textiles Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for sickness of handicraft industry and the concrete steps taken by the Government to organize this industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) No, Sir. The progress made by the handicrafts sector can be seen from the increasing trend of exports of handicrafts and hand-knotted carpets since 2001-02, which is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Year	Exports	% Growth in export
1.	2001-2002	9205.63	—
2.	2002-2003	10933.67	+18.77
3.	2003-2004	12765.18	+16.75
4.	2004-2005	15255.90	+19.51

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Disapproval of WTO of subsidies to domestic cotton growers by US

*394. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the WTO appellate body has upheld a ruling disapproving the action of the Government of the USA providing huge export subsidies to the domestic cotton growers; and